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Memorial Day Address
of
Patrick H. Coney
of Topeka, Kansas.



" From the war's dread, fiery ordeal,
No bitter hates we bring.
No threats of wild revenges,
No bitter taunts to fling."

Memorial Day Exercises

at

La Cygne, Kansas,

May 30, 1904.

Patrick H. Coney, Orator.

“ Only the truth that in life we have spoken;
Only the seed that on earth we have sown;
These shall pass onward when we are forgotten,
Fruits of the harvest of what we have done.”

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MEMORIAL DAY.

THE BOYS IN BLUE COMMEMORATE AGAIN THE DAY APPOINTED TO HONOR
THE NATION'S DEAD.

An unusually large attendance was present at the exercises on Memorial Day. At 1:30 p. m. Robert Mitchell Post No. 170 formed on Broadway, and, led by the band, marched to the opera house to hear Capt. P. H. Coney, of Topeka, deliver the address. The opera house was filled with people who desired to hear him. His address was one of unusual merit, in fact the best we have ever heard on a similar occasion.

Captain Coney's address paid high tribute to the valor and patriotism of the soldiers of the Civil War, and throughout was one of the best and most earnest addresses ever delivered in La Cygne.

At the conclusion of his address the procession was formed on Broadway, headed by the band, followed by thirty little girls bearing flowers for the decoration ceremonies, the Grand Army Post and citizens, and marched to our beautiful Oak Lawn cemetery where the fragrant flowers were laid reverently upon the graves of our country's defenders who are reposing there in an eternal slumber.—*Kansas Standard, of La Cygne, Kan., June 3, 1904.*

LARGE ATTENDANCE.

Memorial services in La Cygne this year were in every way a success and the members of the Robert B. Mitchell Post deserve credit for the management of the occasion.

At 1 o'clock p. m. the La Cygne band and about 200 citizens met Captain P. H. Coney at the train and escorted him to the opera house where a large crowd gathered to hear once more a tribute to loved ones who had carried our flag to victory. After the G. A. R. official exercises music was furnished by both the choir and the band. Captain Coney was then introduced and for some time talked in an interesting manner of the days of war time. The procession then formed headed by our band and marched to the cemetery, which presented a most beautiful appearance. The grass had been carefully mowed and each lot had by loving hands been decorated with the choicest of flowers. For an hour the decorations were viewed by the large crowd.

In the evening a genuine old-fashioned soldiers' camp fire was held at the opera house. Speeches were made by Captain Coney, R. F. Thorne, George Miller and Rev. Arnett. S. A. Danner recited "Barbara Frietschie." The ladies' quartet and the La Cygne orchestra furnished splendid music.
...:..

—*La Cygne Journal, June 3, 1904.*

Memorial Address of Patrick H. Coney.

Mr. Chairman, Comrades, Ladies and Citizens:

"God of the Universe, protect Columbia;
Keep the stars and stripes secure;
Though we drape our flag in mourning,
Keep its mission ever pure.
Round its folds let weeping freemen
Pledge their vows of faith to-day —
Men who battled for the Union
And their brothers of the Grey.

Toll the bells throughout the Nation,
Let the people's sad oblation,
On the mournful music roll.
Let love's fairest, purest flowers,
Wreath this offering of ours,
While the bells of freedom toll."

This Historic Ground.

Through all the vicissitudes of the tragic and memorable past, made glorious by the prevailing sons and daughters of freedom's and humanity's holy cause, we here reverently gather on this historic ground, made hallowed by the uncompromising devotion of the resolute, fearless and aggressive vanguards of liberty, who gave their lives, their fortunes and all the promises of their vigorous youth to reclaim this once barren land to progressive freemen.

The Home of the Free and Brave.

Little that we may say, or do, can add to the glory and renown of their nobility and accomplishment.

The sacred duty to which we are patriotically bound, in loyal devotion to them and their revered memories, is the reconsecration of our most zealous and devotional efforts to the preservation and full fruition of the exalted purposes for which they sacrificed and fought to make this forever the home of the free and brave, with equal rights for all, according to the most progressive ideals of intelligent citizenship, bearing each other's burdens and sharing each other's joys, denying to none the same privileges in life's pursuit and comfort that we ask for ourselves, and in furtherance and preservation of the same to compel purity in all public affairs, with an untrammelled exercise of citizenship, restricted only to a conscientious ballot and an honest count and faithful return.

To Which this Fair Land was Dedicated in Blood and Suffering.

For this benign purpose the Fathers of this grand Republic wrought, and we defenders fought, to which this fair land was dedicated in blood and suffering by its founders.

"We must ne'er prove faithless
To the gallant blood they shed;
Our foes may be forgiven,
But we shall ne'er forget our dead."

Their Achievements were Never Excelled.

The achievements of these heroic men and women, whose lives and labors we this day commemorate, were never excelled, and can only be comparatively equaled by a self-denial and corresponding sacrifice and heroism of the Fathers of our Republic, whose services and accomplishment for humanity, liberty and inde-

pendence should be considerably read and profoundly retold as long as freedom has a champion and courageous independence commands the admiration of men and women and the approval of God.

“In our proud and onward march
We halt an hour for dress parade,
Remembering that fair freedom’s arch
Springs from the base our fathers laid.

“This great Republic had its birth
That hour beneath the army’s wing,
Whose leader taught by native worth
That man is grander than the King.

“No aping after foreign ways
Becomes a son of noble sire;
Columbia wins the sweetest praise
When clad in simple plain attire.”

They Wrought a Miracle.

The Fathers of this Republic gave to the world its most assuring lesson of the possibilities of heroic, independent and intelligent manhood, when acting unitedly in brotherly unity for the divine right of liberty and independence, for man, against mammon and tyranny.

They wrought a miracle in their time; they proclaimed to the world in words of divine wisdom their grievances and their God-given natural rights, in that “Magna Charta” of our liberties, the immortal “Declaration of Independence,” made secure by the palladium of our Republic, our “Constitution.” No person, whatever his station may be, is a capable citizen of this Republic who has not understandingly read and comprehended these two great documents, that are the bulwarks of our liberties.

A comprehensive knowledge of the fundamental principles of our government is essential to capable citizenship. This most paramount necessity in our citizenship has, in the modern rage for trade control and wealth-getting, caused a diversion of the trend of our National and State affairs, until great apprehension is felt among some of the most conscientious and considerate patriots, as to the future security of the Republic, along the primitive lines of the popular safety ordained by the founders.

Valid Ground for Fear of Transformation.

It is to be regretfully confessed that there has been, and is, valid ground for this serious fear of transformation in our governmental conduct.

Under the guise of humane intervention, benevolent assimilation and greed for commercial extension, we have been carried beyond the bounds of the strict text of a secure Republic, which should never aggress, except for human liberty and its preservation; we should never aggress for acquisition, without consent and amicable compensation, and that within the confines of the "Monroe Doctrine," and then only where the people and conditions are of assimilating character, that can and will readily take on the habiliments of American citizenship understandingly and in form.

Keep Out Dangerous Immigrants.

At the close of the Civil War in 1866, our population was thirty-nine millions; to-day it is close to eighty millions. Our natural increase by birth in forty years would be about twenty millions, showing that our population has been increased during this period by over twenty million immigrants; one-half

of these, or near ten millions, have been of an unassimilating and dangerous class—from the peons of Italy, the Russian Jew, the Huns, the Chinaman and Malays; they are mostly an undesirable class in their native countries, and were brought or sent here as minions of corporate greed, under contract or as exiles. They do not understand the principles and basis of a government like ours. They can only be taught citizenship by the most drastic measures of circumscription and control, repugnant to us Americans, who prize our primitive autonomy. The Irish, the English, the Dutch, the French, the Hollanders and Scandinavians quickly assimilated and mingled with us, grasping and qualifying themselves as patriotic Americans, by studying, understanding and performing their dutiful functions as good citizens; but, this latter-day tide of the most vicious classes that are admitted as immigrants from the countries named, do not come for the advantages, comforts and blessings of our high standard of Christian civilization. They come for a riotous life of profit and gain. They resist control of or respect for all law, as they resisted the oppression of the imperial powers in their native land. They regard all law and control as their enemy. It will take several generations to Americanize them, and then their inherited strain of Ishmaelitic characteristics will menacingly appear to harass and embarrass us. We must vigilantly restrict this class of immigrants, and resolutely demand National laws to that end, or the future of our Republic will be dangerously threatened, if not helplessly strangled and transformed. It is already so alarming that all true patriots are trembling for the safety of our Republic, from this purchasable and unintelligent mass of vipers that are being mercenarily naturalized and worked

into marketable citizens. As a battle-scarred veteran of my country, I devoutly appeal to all patriotic Americans to join in vigilantly demanding protection from the scurf of all Europe, and pray Almighty God to strengthen our statesmen to save us and our Nation from this danger that threatens our future glory and existence.

It may seem inappropriate to make these comments on a memorial occasion like this, but it is not, for this is the hour and this is the place to memorize ourselves in commemorating the lives, sacrifice and services of our revered, patriotic and heroic dead, whose characters and achievements must be portrayed for a correct understanding of them and their principles, as well as our reason for the faith that is within us, and the serious purposes of our sacred devotion. To this proper end, retrospection and introspection are a necessity.

Great Our Homage — England Our Persistent Enemy.

Great is our homage, as Americans, for the Revolutionary Fathers and their compatriots. No less reverence should be given to the gallant and courageous Fathers of the wars of 1812 and 1832, with England, our ancient and atrociously persistent enemy, conniving (while under peaceful treaty) for our disintegration and destruction, with foes within and without our borders, who became truculently obsequious when powerless to harm or entrap us.

The English were more effectively whipped and driven from our shores by General Jackson and his heroic command, than they previously were by the Revolutionary Fathers, for England was never content

with the surrender of the "Red Coats" to the heroic colonists, and she longed and sought for every opportunity to successfully attack and conquer us, but she ignominiously failed in all her designs and efforts.

Great is our veneration for the chivalrous heroes of the Mexican and Indian wars, each and all of whom performed a brave warrior's part, earning for themselves glory, renown and reward.

Unprecedented Conduct and Accomplishments of the Heroic Men of 1861 to 1866.

Yet the 2,778,304 defenders of the unity and integrity of this Nation from 1861 to 1866 rendered a greater service to humanity than all the previous wars or battles on this continent, or in fact of all the world. It may be said with logical force that were it not for the success of the colonial fathers and the men of 1812 and 1846, that these matchless men of 1861 to 1866 would not have had the chance to have demonstrated to the world their unprecedented valor, resistless endurance of punishment, unconquerable courage for liberty, home and country. While this is true, the gigantic magnitude of the battles in the destruction of life and property) and the results accomplished by their victory, as well to the vanquished as to the victor, yet, all the wars of all the times, aggregated in a compilation in their beneficial results, never has, nor never can, approach comparison with the service rendered and glorious benefits attained by the men of the War of the Rebellion.

"But e'en here amid the markets
There are things they dare not prize;
Dollars hide their sordid faces
When they meet anointed eyes.

When the soldier saves the battle,
Wraps the flag around his heart,
Who shall desecrate his honor,
With the value of the mart?
From his guns of bronze we hear a price,
And come it as a cross,
For the aim we gave was priceless—
As unpriced would be the loss."

Matchless Patriotism and Heroic Suffering.

For what did these citizens, volunteer soldiers of the Union from 1861 to 1866, so successfully do battle, and what was the character and magnitude of their victories?

They unselfishly, without other consideration than principle, for the preservation of the unity and integrity of our Republic, as established by the Fathers, granting the completest liberty within the confines of safety, in possession of property and the equitable rights of all others, in which an injury to one was the concern of all and the voice of the majority was the voice of all, suffered, sacrificed and victoriously fought the greatest and grandest battles for liberty and humanity ever fought.

There is not in preceding human history such an evidence of devotion to country as that exemplified by the patriots of America, who, out of a military population of 5,625,872 in 1861, responded to the "call" of "Father Abraham" 2,778,304 men, who took their lives in their hands and went out to battle for conscience and country, showing that nearly one-half of our male citizens between the ages of 15 and 45 actually entered the military service. These figures are intensified in their force when we find, by the report of the Provost-Marshal General, that but one-half of the military population — that is, men between

the ages of 18 and 45 — was available, the other half being exempt from physical defects or other causes.

Thus it will be seen that there were actually mustered into the service from 1861 to 1865 a number of men equal to the whole number liable for military duty at the outbreak of the war.

It dazes the keenest contemplation, the voluminous sacrifice and pain that these statistics portray. Grief follows admiration in the reflection of the affectionate ambitions annulled, hopes destroyed, the ties of family and kindred sundered, the homes shattered; of the fatiguing marches, distress and suffering in field and camp, the restless nights and days, unsheltered from the elements, storm, rain, sleet, frost and snow, or the scorching sun rays, and pestered with the increments of army life, vermin that infests and poisons; often with only the canopy of clouds for a covering and the sod for a bed, with the indescribable horrors of battle, distracting wounds, hospital misery, and agonizing death, endured by this vast army of 2,778,304 brave defenders of our country and our flag—all this was experienced on hundreds of American battlefields.

Youthful Ages and Number of Enlistments from April 13, 1861, to April 9, 1865.

Seventy-five per cent of the enlistments were young men under 21 years of age, nearly 50 per cent were 18 years of age and under. It is a marvel when officially considered. The following is authentic:

The records in the office of the Adjutant General in Washington show that in the War of the Rebellion the enlisted men consisted as follows:

Those 10 years and under.....	25
“ 11 “ “ “	38

Those 12 years and under.....	225
“ 13 “ “ “	300
“ 14 “ “ “	1,523
“ 15 “ “ “	104,987
“ 16 “ “ “	231,051
“ 17 “ “ “	844,891
“ 18 “ “ “	1,151,438
“ 21 “ “ “	2,159,798
“ 22 “ “ over	618,511
“ 25 “ “ “	46,626
“ 44 “ “ “	16,071
Total men enlisted.....	2,778,304

At the present time, upon the same basis, there are in the United States, subject to service, 10,343,152 soldiers.

The total amount paid to men during the Rebellion, including pensions paid since the war up to July 1, 1900, is about \$2,500,000,000.

The other expenses of the war amounted to \$5,-600,000,000.

“The shadows of the comrades I loved in long ago,
Are flitting in my visions, their faces well I know;
And from the roar of battle I hear their voices rise,
To mingle with our triumph and echo in the skies.”

Abraham Lincoln and the Kansas Bill.

(The ever memorable debate of the immortal Lincoln and Douglas, for the United States Senate, in Illinois, in 1858, brought out and crystalized the issues and made the “Kansas and Nebraska Bill” for admission to the Union the salient and sapient issue. Kansas was the storm breeder and precipitating battle ground of the great conflict, which divided the sheep and the goats from the slavery wolves of the South, who preferred “Cotton King” and “slavery,” with a divided Union, a disrupted Nation, to restricted slavery and a

“United Union,” one and inseparable, as a Nation forever.

From the brambles of obscurity the immortal Lincoln came to us, and his character and life was as near divine as man could be; he had no predecessor and may never have a successor. He was simple, plain, without pretention or frills. His presence was so quiet, so sublime and so fragrant that all beings and nature in his circle was inspired into harmonious hope and confidence in his wisdom and righteousness of purpose. Where he was partly understood, he was confided in absolutely, and never betrayed. He adored the common people; he loved humanity and strove for them as no ordinary man before ever so successfully did. “He was less than a God, but greater than man.” He died beloved of all people, and yet he was never fully understood, and is not yet. He was and is the “wonder of the ages,” but the nobility of his divine character becomes more resplendent as time passes and all his attributes are discussed and understood. The South lost in his red handed and brutal assassination, by the crazy fiend who sent him to Heaven by his wild shot, the best and truest friend they had, or could have found.)

“Rich was his brave and honest worth,
And rich was his heart’s warm core;
Rich was the love of his fireside hearth,
And rich was his honor lore.”

“By each remembrance of the past,
Our prayers for him are given;
The love of comrades true and fast,
While pulse throb and life shall last,
And trusting all to Heaven.”

Are We Faithful to Him and Our Trust?

(He gave to us an example and heritage, second only to the humble and holy Nazarene, who gave His life for our salvation. Are we now faithful and dutiful to his imploration and admonition? Are we carrying into effect his exemplary precepts? Are we exploiting the lessons of his wisdom so the same may be understood and pursued by our successors in unselfish purity and prudential conduct of our public affairs? Let us introspect ourselves with a clinical analysis of our public action, and determine within our own conscience whether our acts are in pursuit of the wisest and safest methods of public weal, so fervently and trenchantly addressed to us by Washington, Jefferson, Jackson and Lincoln in their last letters and addresses. Their extensively published utterances should be seriously consulted, profoundly studied and ardently adhered to, for they gave them to us after sage experience in the most crucial tests of unselfish and solemn patriotic statesmanship.)

Digression of Governmental Affairs — Safeguard Public Weal by Eternal Vigilance.

The trend of our National and State affairs is dangerously digressing from the stern lines of safety. Sordid greed and avarice are speedily undermining the foundations of our Republic, and commercialism is taking the place of unselfish patriotism. The rage for the "almighty dollar" is displacing purity in public affairs, and profit-making has become the crowning glory of modern achievements, regardless of governmental safety and public weal. We are progressively developing our internal resources at measureless speed, which greatly gratifies our material

and National pride, but if this is being done at the expense of popular sovereignty and the primitive simplicity of constitutional government, in strict line with the immortal Declaration, we should halt, reflect and revise conditions to conform strictly and consistently with our well defined lines of popular government as ordained and decreed by the founders and defenders of our Republic. We should safeguard against corrupt control through the manipulations of corporate combines or the machinations of concentrated wealth, that seeks to coerce and dictate governmental direction to the spoliation of the natural and fundamental rights of the masses, and the humiliation of our citizenship in depriving them of equal opportunities in the pursuit of life's comforts and happiness.

The rights of the masses are paramount to those of all privileged classes; no men, or set of men, can rightfully claim a natural or just right to control and manipulate, through public functions, the necessities and welfare of the masses to their degradation and impoverishment. Lincoln wisely said, "God must love the common people or he would not have made so many of them." We should encourage a profitable and successful development of all our resources and natural advantages, within the boundaries of public weal, but always subject to lawful control by the people, who are the primitive source of all power in our beloved land of liberty and prosperity.

The people and good citizenship are above and beyond all parties or factions. This fact should never be lost sight of by any patriotic and loyal American.

What is most needed in our present citizenship is a rehabilitation of the simple and rigidly conscientious ways of the Puritan, cavalier and patriotic fathers

and mothers, who wrought and transmitted to our hands this glorious Republic; we need

More of practice, less profession ;
More of firmness, less concession ;
More of freedom, less oppression,
 In the Church and in the State.
More of life and less of fashion ;
More of love and less passion,
 That will make us good and great.

Hail Extension of Liberty to All Who Seek it, Within Secure Bounds.

We should hail with glorious delight the extension of the blessings of liberty and advanced civilization as enjoyed by us, to all the people, of all the universe, who seek it, and are willing and capable of enjoying and protecting it, but we should not go beyond our own territorial boundary to compel any resisting people to adopt it. Is it not transcending the fundamental precepts and constitutional authority of the government, to acquire control and possession of alien territory and people, by conquest, under any guise of friendly intervention, or assumption, without the voluntary consent of that people? Is it not a disregard of our governmental safety, and a transgression of the tenets of our Republic as maintained by the Fathers and builders—embodied in the public addresses of Washington, Jefferson and Lincoln and their compeers—to maintain by armed force a different form of government, under our glorious flag and Constitution, in a conquered possession, from that we have here at home? It seems to me so; and if carried on to its complete sequence, what may become of our vaunted liberties and self-control? If our “Bill of Rights” and Constitution may be twisted, strained, juggled

and perverted to do this with foreign territory, what is there to hinder a less flagrant, but equally as insidious, perversion of authority and transformation of government form here? Are we not justifying it here by our toleration of it abroad? Surely it is high time that we were seriously considering this question in the light of the ardent admonition contained in "Washington's Farewell Address," and in the official papers of Jefferson, who so impressively warned us against such insidious dangers that were more liable to wreck our Republic than open rebellion.

"Perish all intrigue to Freedom's cause,
Of Sultan's King or Minstrel tool;
True liberty must make men's laws
And virtue, right and reason rule."

Avoid Invidious and Insidious Embarrassments at Home and Abroad.

The hundreds of millions yearly expended to control by forced persuasion the yellow Malay combatants of the archipelagoes, who are neither congenial nor affiliable by any natural or affinity ties, and are as unassimilative with pure Americans as the Mongolian, is a waste of energy and money for all beneficial purposes, save a small commercial advantage that could be more cheaply, honorably and humanely obtained through cordial and reciprocal treaty compact and their assured protected independence and self-government.

If the vast amounts that have been and are now being squandered upon their military control were to be expended for the reclamation and development of our limitless domestic resources of land and water, there would soon be prosperous provision made for the profitable and happy homesteading of from twenty to

fifty millions of our people. This would be in conformity with the "Magna Charta" of our liberties, and enable us to point with consistent pride to the glorious advantages of our civilization and government, thereby avoiding invidious embarrassments at home or abroad, and escaping all foreign entanglements or broils; continuing our National policy in harmonious line with our exalted precedent of law and security, adhered to from the beginning; thereby, commanding the friendly respect of all foreign powers and allaying all apprehensive discontent at home, with renewed tranquillity in the scrupulous adherence to the spirit and letter of the basic ideals of our cherished Republic in all its adhesive grandeur, without deviation or extravagation. It is consonant with appropriate memorial exercises for our heroic patriots, who so chivalrously and peerlessly periled their all for the construction and maintenance of our liberties, that we should review any apparent desecration of their faithful life's work and advice by the transgression of their teachings and warnings, that are the gospel of our rights as citizens and the true text and bulwark, of the permanency of their and our National integrity; therefore, it is meet that these inquisitive comparisons should be made, that we may in reverent commemoration of them, and in fidelity to ourselves and our victorious internecine contention, act in accordance with right and safety, along the clearly defined lines of patriotic comprehension.

The preservation of a Republic, and the salvation of a people's rights in their peaceful possessions, of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, lies in the pure, untrammelled exercise of our citizenship, and doing unto, and exacting of, all others, truth, honesty

and honor in their individual and public conduct. For "there is more in the salvation of a Republic than the mere absence of a King or Emperor."

Our freedom is a trust from God,
To true men's guardianship consigned ;
Who bow to brute oppression's rod
Are slaves and traitors to their kind.

Let No American Fear to Openly Do Right.

Let there ever be in upright Americans no fear to do right, regardless of party or power; let them that have deservedly earned freedom, peace and happy prosperity in the land they, by their valor, saved and made gloriously prosperous, never cringe or fear to speak independently and dauntlessly their convictions and exercise their right of franchise accordingly, for God and country.

"Only the truth that in life we have spoken,
Only the seed that on earth we have sown;
These shall pass onward when we are forgotten,
Fruits of the harvest of what we have done."

Our Heroines and Queens.

The women of America are the most royal and noble on earth. To them we owe all that we are or may ever expect to be. The part they so courageously and valiantly bore in the Revolution, in taking the men's part in the successful conduct of affairs at home while their men were in the field victoriously contesting for freedom, home and country, is too well known to all readers of history for me to incidentally relate. But the conduct of Irish Molly Moylan at the battle of Monmouth, June 2, 1778, who, after her husband was killed at the cannon's mouth, took her

husband's place and kept up the firing over the dead body of her husband, until victory was gained, firing the last shot in that engagement, and who was commissioned Sergeant by Gen. Washington for her gallantry in line of battle, is, illustrative of the women of the Revolution. In all the movements for the defense of this Nation and the integrity of the Union, they gave their full share of inspiring devotion. To them is due the greatest credit for loyally keeping alive the great reserve power at home. Their organized aid societies of every description, kept vigorously active by the thrilling spirit of sacrificial patriotism, inspired us most to duty, and to victory or death in camp and battlefield. They took our part at home, endured all losses and suffering with fortitude and devotional love, never halting, never wanting.

Who or what more inspired us all than Julia Ward Howe by her "Battle Hymn of the Republic." The heroic mothers, wives, daughters and sisters, together with the loyal women of America, were our "Joan of Arc" during the darkest hours of this Republic, and are to us the most regal Queens, entitled to the rarest jeweled crowns of the most precious diadems that ever filigreed the head of woman. They were and are to us, and should be to every faithful American, the choicest and most sacred blessing to man.)

"The maid who binds her warrior's sash,
With smile that well her pain dissembles,
The while beneath her drooping lash
One starry tear-drop hangs and trembles,
Though Heaven alone records the tear,
And fame shall never know her story,
Her heart has shed a drop as dear
As e'er bedewed the field of glory!

“The wife who girds her husband’s sword,
 ’Mid little ones who weep or wonder,
And bravely speaks the cheering word,
 What though her heart be rent asunder,
Doomed nightly in her sleep to hear
 The bolts of death around her rattle,
Hath shed as sacred blood as e’er
 Was poured upon the field of battle !

“The mother who conceals her grief
 While to her breast her son she presses,
Then breathes a few brave words and brief,
 Kissing the patriot brow she blesses,
With no one but her secret God
 To know the pain that weighs upon her,
Sheds holy blood as e’er the sod
 Received on Freedom’s field of honor!”

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